The HBI Young Scientist Development Award program was launched in 2018 with support from the Office of the President & Provost at Harvard University. This program seeks to bolster the career development of graduate students and postdoctoral fellows in neuroscience by providing flexible, small grants of up to $5,000 to support creative training endeavors not easily covered by other funding sources.

The HBI Young Scientist Travel Award supports travel for advanced training—including specialized research courses, small topical conferences and visits to collaborator labs at other colleges or universities. They are open to PhD students and postdoctoral fellows conducting basic neuroscience research at Harvard and its affiliated hospitals.

The HBI Host-a-Scholar Award allows Harvard PhD students and postdoctoral fellows to invite scholars from other institutions to their laboratory to initiate new collaborations or nurture existing partnerships for basic neuroscience research.

AWARD INFORMATION

We anticipate awarding a total of $100,000 over the next two funding cycles.

- Travel awards for small research conferences will be made in amounts of $3,000 or less
- Travel awards for specialized research courses will be made in amounts of $5,000 or less
- Travel awards for outgoing lab visits will generally cover trips of one week to one month. The proposed budget should reflect the length of the visit and extent of travel involved, with the maximum request being $5,000.
- Host-a-Scholar awards will generally cover hosting experiences of one week to one month. The proposed budget should reflect the length of the scholar’s visit to Harvard and extent of travel involved, with the maximum request being $5,000.
ELIGIBILITY

- Applicants must be Harvard PhD students or postdoctoral fellows/PhD level research associates. (PhD students should be at the stage where they have declared a lab)

- Applicants must be currently working on a neuroscience research project in a lab physically situated at Harvard University or an affiliated hospital (with the exception of Division of Medical Science PhD students working with Harvard-affiliated faculty at neighboring institutions, who remain eligible)

- Past award recipients are welcome to apply again. However, priority may be given to new applicants when the volume of proposals is high

- Each laboratory may submit up to two proposals in each round of this grant program. Applicants should discuss plans with their PI prior to submitting a proposal

ADDITIONAL NOTES

- Each applicant may submit only one proposal

- Joint proposals are not permitted—only one Harvard PhD student or postdoc can be supported by one award

- Conference proposals should be geared towards small topical conferences in the applicant’s area of research expertise, generally with under 500 attendees. Very large, general society meetings such as SFN cannot be covered by this mechanism

APPLICATION DEADLINES

- Applications are due April 24 for travel or hosting experiences scheduled for July thru September 2019. Decisions will likely be announced at the end of May.

- Applications are due July 15 for travel or hosting experiences scheduled for Oct 2019 – June 2020. Decisions will likely be announced at the end of August.

- If funds allow, another RFA will be issued in Winter 2019/2020.
HOW TO APPLY

Submit the Google form for your desired award type by the due dates above. We will acknowledge all applications within three business days. If you do not receive a confirmation email from us, please reach out again to confirm receipt!

Application Form for Travel Award (Conference) >>
Application Form for Travel Award (Course) >>
Application Form for Travel Award (Lab Visit) >>

Application Form for Host-a-Scholar Award >>

TO LEARN MORE

Visit our website and read about 2018 awardees:
http://brain.harvard.edu/grants/young-scientist-development-award-program/

Questions? Email Parizad Bilimoria at HBI_grants@harvard.edu

COVERED EXPENSES

These travel and host-a-scholar awards can be applied towards transportation, room and board, course tuition, conference registration fees, poster-printing etc. Laboratory research supplies, salaries and stipends are not typically covered by these awards.

Airfare must be economy class. All travel reimbursements will be subject to Harvard’s general travel policies, described here: https://travel.harvard.edu/policies-reimbursement

HOW AWARDS WILL WORK

If your proposal is chosen for funding, the awarded amount would be available to your lab after completion of your travel or hosting experience – as reimbursement for costs actually incurred. Your lab would cover individual expenses along the way and then submit an itemized summary with receipts to our grant manager at the end. At that time, we would also require a short synopsis of your experience and a photograph that we may share on our website.